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NEW RADNOR RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

RADNORSHIRE

JOINT

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND OF THE

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1961



MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL
(including Parish they represent)

AS AT

31ST DECEMBER, 1961

J. E. Hughes (Chairman) - LLANDEGLEWY
J. H. Evans (Vice-Chairman) - EVENJOBB

A. L. Price	- COLVA	A. B. Roberts	- LLANFIIHANGEL
J. T. Edwards	- EDNOL	S. K. Williams	- MICHAELCHURCH
I. Lloyd	- GLADESTRY	T. P. Lloyd	- NEWCHURCH
C. T. Davies	- GLASCWM	J. Lloyd	- NEW RADNOR
Mrs. I. Harley	- GLASCWM	J. G. Taft	- OLD RADNOR
B.D.R. Ball	- HARPTON	E. L. Mills	- TREWERN
V.T. Jones	- KINNERTON	P. S. Hughes	- WALTON

Clerk & Chief Financial Officer	- A. J. Blatchford
Medical Officer of Health	- R. H. Jobson
Surveyor & Public Health Inspector	- L. Allen, M.A.P.H.I.,

To the Chairman and Members of the New Radnor R.D. Council.

Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

In presenting this joint Annual Report, I wish to thank Mr. L. Allen for his contribution towards it and for his co-operation in the past year.

Richard H. Jobson
Medical Officer of Health

1. STATISTICS OF THE AREA

Area (in acres)	51,892
Number of inhabited houses (according to Rate Book 1960)	627
Population	2,040
Rateable Value (as at 31.12.60)	£11,086
Sum represented by a 1d Rate	£41

2. VITAL STATISTICS

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
(a) Live Births (legitimate).....	41	27	14
" " (illegitimate)	-	-	-
TOTALS			

41	27	14
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(b) Still Births (legitimate)	-	-	-
" " (illegitimate)	-	-	-
TOTALS			

-	-	-
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(c) Infant Mortality

(i) Death of infants under 1 year -	-	-
(ii) " " " " 4 weeks-	-	-
(iii) " " " " 1 week -	-	-
(iv) " from puerperal causes -	-	-

(d) Causes of death - Statistics provided by the Registrar General

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
18. Coronary disease, angina	5	1	4
20. Other heart disease	2	1	1
21. " circulatory disease	1	1	-
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	1	1	-
	9	4	5

3. INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DICEASES

A fairly high percentage of the population were affected by the nationwide epidemic of Influenza in the early part of the year. No very serious cases were reported and no deaths had occurred.

There was an epidemic of German Measles, affecting in the main, the more youthful inhabitants of the area.

During the latter part of this summer publicity was given to the fact that innoculation against Acute anterior polio-meyelitis was available to anyone in the area wishing to be innoculated.

4. TUBERCULOSIS

The County Medical Officer deals with all aspects of this disease.

5. NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT, 1946

The County Council is the responsible Authority for the execution of this Act.

(a) Laboratory Facilities

These are provided by the Public Health Laboratory at Hereford and the Public Analyst's Laboratory at Carmarthen.

(b) Ambulance Services

The County Ambulance Headquarters are at the County Hospital Llandrindod Wells. This ambulance has to be used even when cases are being sent out of the County, principally to the County Hospital, Hereford.

(c) Dental Care of Mothers and Young Children

These facilities are provided by the County Council.

(d) Child Welfare

The Child Welfare Centre is at Walton, and is attended monthly by the District Medical Officer.

The following portion of the report has been compiled by the Surveyor and Public Health Inspector.

6. WATER SUPPLIES

General

Samples of both public and private water supplies were taken and submitted for analysis. Where necessary work was carried out to maintain the purity of these supplies, and in some cases work was carried out to obtain extra water to augment these supplies.

However, it was still necessary to have notices put up in some parts of the district asking people to be conservative in their use of water, and prohibiting car washing and watering of gardens.

Further shortage was also experienced at end of year due to severe frosts - burst pipes - and excessive water running to waste.

Llandegley & Penybont Supply

This is a bulk supply of water purchased from Rhayader R.D.C., and measured by meter situated on the district boundary. No undue difficulties were experienced with this supply during the year.

One additional property (a new bungalow in Penybont Village) has been connected to this supply.

Franksbridge Scheme

A scheme to abstract water from the River Edw and pump it to a reservoir, affording a gravitational supply to the district. During the year very slow progress was made with this scheme and although every effort was eventually made to have this supply available to consumers before the end of the year, numerous "teething" problems were experienced for which a remedy will have to be found.

6. WATER SUPPLIES

Franksbridge Scheme (Cont'd)

The most serious problem would appear to be a large amount of matter in suspension being washed down in the stream, choking up the grids and even finding its way through to the filter. This can very quickly occur after the slightest rainfall.

A letter was received from the Builth & District Water Board asking whether it would be possible for a fringe supply of water to be made available to serve some properties in their area immediately adjoining Franksbridge.

New Radnor (Extended) Scheme

A scheme to abstract water from Harley Valley stream, direct same to reservoir, and afford a gravitational supply to New Radnor and neighbouring parishes.

Work was commenced on this scheme in August of this year and has proceeded expeditiously since then. A hold up was caused in the last two weeks of December due to severe frost. By the end of the year Harley Valley reservoir was nearing completion and several miles of pipeline had been laid.

Newchurch Scheme

Further investigations were made, with a view to obtaining a suitable supply of water for this area at a reasonable cost, the source of this supply to be from an alternative spring situated on Lloyney Farm. These investigations are continuing.

7. DRAINAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

4 small sewage disposal plants are in operation in the district dealing mainly with sewage from Council housing estates. Remainder of modernized properties are drained into septic tank/soakaways.

8. REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

The collection of household refuse is carried out by Contract. A monthly collection of refuse is available for all properties situated beside classified roads, or willing to place their refuse out beside these roads.

Disposal is by means of controlled tipping on 3 separate sites. One of these tips is nearly filled up and owner has intimated that he will not rent more ground to the Council for use as a refuse tip. Whilst all approvals have been obtained for developing a new refuse tip at Llandegley negotiations with the owners have not yet been finalised.

Additional litter bins have been placed on the roadsides by the Radnorshire County Council, and they are now emptying these bins. In spite of this, some of these bins are being used indiscriminately (probably by some local people) as a means of disposing of unwanted rubbish. Some of the rubbish seen in these bins varied from a flock mattress to bundles of periodicals and sacks full of tins and bottles.

9. RODENT CONTROL

No operator is employed by the Council, but private dwelling houses can still receive free poison baits. No major infestations have been discovered, or reported in the district. Inspections of farms and other properties are made when visiting premises on other business or following enquiries. Any infestations are referred to private rodent operators.

10. HOUSING

General

Once again the general condition of houses in the district has been improved during the past year and further houses have been modernised. Grants available from the Ministry of Agriculture (Hill Farming Improvement Schemes for farmhouses) have again been the major cause of modernisation to these properties. It is also pleasing to report that satisfactory co-operation has been maintained with the officials operating these Hillfarming Schemes.

Slum Clearance

Three sub-standard properties in the district were scheduled as being unfit for human habitation, following the satisfactory re-housing of tenants from these properties.

One of these properties was the household referred to in the Annual Report for 1960, which was the cause of a nuisance complaint due to the emission of dust from Stone Quarry Plant.

Some difficulty was experienced when a "problem" family from outside the district moved into a building, that had been closed as living accommodation, without the consent of the owner. Fortunately this family found alternative accommodation in another district.

Improvement Grants (Discretionary)

Only one application was received for a discretionary improvement grant in spite of the recent publicity given to these grants. Below are figures comparing number of grants given, with those for previous years :-

	<u>1958</u>	<u>1959</u>	<u>1960</u>	<u>1961</u>
No. of applications approved	5	5	NIL	1
Total amount of grant	£1542	£1520	NIL	£400

Improvement Grants (Standard)

Two applications were received for standard improvement grants and they were approved.

Private Building

During the year 5 new dwellings were erected by private enterprise.

11. CARAVANS

There are 4 individual Caravan sites in the area registered by the Council and these are maintained very satisfactorily. They are occupied as "permanent" homes.

There have been several occurrences of groups of caravans stopping on disused parts of main roads and on common land. It is noticed now that these "mobile caravanners" invariably have their own moveable chemical closet which they use without creating a nuisance. They also have clean water cans for obtaining their drinking water. Their main source of trouble is the litter they sometimes leave behind (including collections of unwanted rags and scrap iron).

Two enquiries have been received for establishing caravan sites in the area.

12. FOOD PREMISES AND FOOD INSPECTION

(a) Food Premises

These premises are summarized as follows :-

Butcher's Shop	1
Bakery	1
Grocery Stores	7
Public Houses	8
School Canteens	6

Total number of inspections carried out is 40.

Alterations and improvements have been carried out to one public house. This included additional sanitary accommodation and washing facilities with new septic tank drainage and new food and drink storage with extra catering facilities.

One of the public houses which had been modernised suffered severe fire damage when the catering part of these premises (including kitchen) was destroyed.

(b) Section 14, Food and Drugs Act, 1938

No. of premises registered for the storage and sale of ice cream	8
No. of premises registered for the preparation and sale of sausages	1
Total number of inspections	18

(c) Meat Inspection

There are no licensed slaughter-houses in the district. All meat retailed from butchers shop or vans coming into the district, is slaughtered outside the district and inspected before it leaves the slaughterhouse.

(d) Milk Supply

All dairy premises in the district are occupied by producer/wholesalers and come under the supervision of the Ministry of Agriculture. Any retailers have their dairy premises outside the district.

13. FACTORIES & WORKSHOPS

Premises	Number on Register	Number of Inspections
Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are enforced by L.A.	5	10
Factories not included above in which Section 7 is enforced by L.A.	7	14
Other premises or workshops	3	6
TOTAL	15	30

HEALTH
2-JUN-62
G.A.